



MECKLER BULGER TILSON
MARICK & PEARSON LLP



WHITE-COLLAR CRIME AND INTERNAL INVESTIGATIONS PRACTICE

CHICAGO

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WHITE-COLLAR CRIME AND INTERNAL INVESTIGATIONS PRACTICE

MBT's White-Collar Crime and Internal Investigations Practice Group focuses on conducting internal and special investigations for private and public sector organizations, and the defense of corporations, executives, public officials and other individuals. The practice group attorneys have extensive trial experience in complex criminal and civil litigation in federal and state court and have handled hundreds of internal investigations and audits. Their experience, depth of knowledge, and innovative approach provides customized, practical and effective legal solutions for our clients, while carefully managing costs. These attributes have become the hallmark of MBT and positioned the firm at the forefront of the legal community, making it the go-to firm for some of the country's largest public and private companies.

MBT's White-Collar Crime and Internal Investigations Practice Group attorneys have handled matters that include:

- Internal Investigations
- Representation before Grand Juries
- Federal and State Court Trials and Appeals
- Corporate and Individual Defense
- Financial and Securities Fraud
- Government Contractor Fraud
- Criminal and Civil RICO
- Qui Tam and False Claims Act
- Health Care Fraud
- Public Corruption
- Compliance Counseling and Monitoring
- Legal Fee and Forensic Audits

ILLUSTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

The following examples illustrate MBT attorneys' substantial white-collar crime and internal investigation experience:

FRAUD AND EMBEZZLEMENT

MBT attorneys have investigated and litigated numerous types of frauds and embezzlements from financial institutions, mortgage companies, accounting firms, medical centers, insurance companies, retail stores, law firms, manufacturing companies, school districts and national charities.

- U.S. Department of Justice criminal investigation involving financial reporting improprieties by a former public company executive. No charges were brought against the client.
- Shareholder derivative-minority owner dispute alleging breach of fiduciary duty, breach of stock trust, fraud, and a claim for involuntary dissolution. The case was settled favorably for the firm's client, a privately held manufacturing company.
- Multi-million dollar civil fraud claim by a former professional basketball player against the client, his agent. The case, tried before a jury, resulted in a verdict of not liable on all counts in favor of the agent.
- International gourmet grocer's RICO action against a shareholder for an alleged multi-million dollar embezzlement. The case was settled favorably for the client.
- National charity was the victim of an embezzlement by several employees who prepared false expense claims and dummy payroll records. The employees were convicted, and the charity was reimbursed.

RICO AND PUBLIC CORRUPTION

MBT attorneys have investigated and litigated matters involving racketeering and the bribery of local officials and public employees to obtain favored treatment.

- RICO and bribery charges brought against the client, the president of one of the country's largest trade unions. After nearly a four-month trial, the trade union president was acquitted.
- Federal civil RICO action against a nightclub and individual owners for breach of contract and breach of securities laws relating to the sale of an interest in a club franchise. The case against our client was eventually dismissed.

- Investigation and prosecution of several police officers relating to numerous crimes involving extortion, unlawful delivery of controlled substances, evidence planting, money laundering, and home invasions.
- Statewide internal investigation of hiring practices at an Illinois state agency, which involved interviews of hundreds of employees in five separate regions over a one-year period.
- Civil RICO and fraud action to rescind an order of the Bankruptcy Court authorizing the sale of a debtor corporation on the basis that the buyer intended to use the corporation to generate illegal tax shelters for third parties. Obtained through settlement full measure of compensatory damages, plus additional funds.

OTHER ALLEGATIONS

MBT attorneys have represented clients in matters pertaining to a wide variety of alleged schemes including tax conspiracy, illegal gambling and rebates, copyright infringement and piracy, and antitrust issues.

- Criminal tax conspiracy and violation of federal gambling laws charges brought against the client, a local business owner. In one of the longest trials in the Federal Court in Chicago history, the business owner was acquitted.
- U.S. Trustee seeking to gain control of hundreds of thousands of dollars of bearer bonds obtained by an illegal rebate scheme. The case was tried, won and upheld on appeal on behalf of the client.
- Major movie studio sought the criminal and civil prosecution of video store owners for copyright infringement and piracy. U.S. Marshall raids were conducted to seize counterfeit videos and obtain consent decrees by store owners to stop the sale of counterfeit videos.
- U.S. Department of Justice conducted an antitrust investigation of a city newspaper. Charges against the publisher were eventually dropped.

WHITE-COLLAR CRIME AND INTERNAL INVESTIGATIONS PRACTICE GROUP PARTNERS



Richard A. Devine, Partner

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Dick Devine leads MBT's White-Collar Crime and Internal Investigations Practice Group. Over the course of his 40-year career in private practice and public office, Mr. Devine has investigated, litigated and tried complex criminal and civil litigation matters. As the Cook County State's Attorney, Mr. Devine led the country's second largest prosecutor's office for twelve years, overseeing over 900 Cook County Assistant State's Attorneys and a budget of over \$100 million. Mr. Devine personally led the investigation and prosecution of major felony crimes, including complex white-collar criminal cases, working and developing relationships with federal, state and local law enforcement. These matters included financial crime and conspiracies, and many types of public corruption. In addition, Mr. Devine has led the investigation and litigation involving complex civil matters. Mr. Devine's vast litigation experience, in addition to his no-nonsense approach and impeccable reputation, make him an invaluable resource for the defense of any individual or organization, public or private.



Jack J. Carriglio, Partner

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Jack Carriglio is a veteran defense lawyer who represents Fortune 500 corporations and corporate executives before grand juries and trial and appellate courts in a wide range of white-collar criminal matters, including RICO, tax and antitrust. His experience of over 30 years includes handling federal criminal defense matters across the U.S. Mr. Carriglio has represented corporations and individuals in federal grand jury proceedings and investigations by the Securities and Exchange Commission, Internal Revenue Service, Department of Labor, and Federal Bureau of Investigation. He has also represented corporations in internal investigations and in negotiations with federal authorities.



Christopher E. Kentra, Partner

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Chris Kentra is an experienced litigator, handling a wide variety of corporate and employment related disputes, involving such matters as breach of fiduciary duty claims, partnership disputes and enforcement of restrictive covenants. Mr. Kentra has also represented corporations and government agencies in state and federal grand jury proceedings, focusing on such priorities as preservation of privileged materials and electronic evidence. Most recently, Mr. Kentra led a statewide internal investigation of hiring practices at the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services involving a comprehensive analysis of hiring practices, including agency policies, management practices, and interview protocols.



James J. Knibbs, Partner

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Jim Knibbs is an experienced trial lawyer who has handled a wide range of civil and criminal cases. Mr. Knibbs joined MBT from the Cook County State's Attorney office, where he supervised the Public Corruption and Financial Crimes Unit and served under Richard A. Devine. Mr. Knibbs and his team investigated and prosecuted complex financial crimes by public employees, religious organization officials, corporations and individuals. As an Assistant State's Attorney, Mr. Knibbs also supervised the Professional Standards Unit, which investigated and prosecuted felony police misconduct cases. Mr. Knibbs has practiced law for 24 years and has previously been a partner in two Chicago law firms in addition to his public service.

WHITE-COLLAR CRIME AND INTERNAL INVESTIGATIONS PRACTICE GROUP PARTNERS



Bruce R. Meckler, Partner

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Bruce Meckler is MBT's Co-Managing Partner and is a member of the firm's White-Collar Crime and Internal Investigations Practice Group and Legal Audit Group. As a former prosecutor, Mr. Meckler is experienced on both sides of criminal trial and appellate work, grand jury investigations and other corporate inquiries. Mr. Meckler routinely advises both corporate clients and government agencies on the proper execution of internal investigations and how to best respond to inquiries by prosecutors. He has been appointed on multiple occasions to act as Special Assistant Attorney General, and worked with other Illinois agencies in conducting internal investigations of alleged criminal misconduct and responding to both state and federal grand jury subpoenas.



Mari Henry Leigh, Partner

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Mari Henry Leigh advises, counsels and handles litigation for clients involved in antitrust, securities, fraud and embezzlement, illegal rebate schemes and tax shelters, manipulation of surplus reserves and capital, copyright and video piracy, and trade secret theft matters. For the last 12 years, Ms. Leigh has served as Chair of MBT's Legal Audit Group, which focuses on corporate internal investigations, including investigations related to fraudulent and excessive billing. Ms. Leigh has extensive experience with all forms of data extraction, conversion and analysis, e-discovery and preservation issues, and accounting and financial statement analysis.



Michael I. Leonard, Partner

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Mike Leonard regularly tries criminal and civil cases in federal and state courts. Mr. Leonard's work has involved litigating high profile "whistleblower" matters under the state and federal *qui tam* or False Claims Acts relating to health care and pharmaceutical fraud. He has conducted numerous internal investigations for companies and other organizations arising out of employee misconduct, fraud, and other malfeasance. Mr. Leonard represents individuals in federal criminal matters and has tried numerous jury verdict matters including conspiracy, fraud, counterfeiting and embezzlement. In addition to his law practice, Mr. Leonard is also an Adjunct Professor at Northwestern University School of Law.



Jacob M. Rubinstein, Partner

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Before joining MBT, Jake Rubinstein served as a Cook County Assistant State's Attorney for nine years, serving in the Civil Bureau's Labor and Employment Unit and later as a criminal prosecutor concentrating in the investigation and prosecution of homicides and serial sex crimes. He has tried over 100 jury and bench trials and has broad investigative experience, having been assigned to the State's Attorney's Office's Felony Review Unit, where he supervised a team of attorneys assisting police departments in criminal investigations.



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